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The Honorable Thomas Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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September 12, 2014

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

As the President of the Fayetteville Regional Chamber of Commerce in Fayetteville, NC, I want to first applaud the Federal Communications Commission for its efforts to bring affordable, reliable and up-to-date Internet services to rural Americans.

But, as you know, these services must be available to all rural areas, not just in some parts. They must be accessible to all rural Americans, not just a few.

I emphasize these points because it appears the FCC's new CAF II regulations could lead to a checkerboard in which some areas or some citizens receive the service they deserve and some do not.

To ensure this doesn't happen, I hope the Commission includes the following changes before issuing final CAF II regulations:

- >Extend the funding period to 10 years to build the higher capacity network.
- >Establish reasonable network build-out parameters.
- >Allow funds to be used to reach all un-served, high-cost households and businesses, including those in the same Census blocks as those that have access to 10 Mbps broadband.
- >Require service claims of all providers to be verified through a strong and independent challenge.

While initial projections show that an additional 67,900 North Carolina homeowners and businesses -- many of them located in Fayetteville and the surrounding area -- would have 10/1 Mbps Internet service available to them under the proposed new CAF II regulations, this won't happen if the changes outlined above are not made.

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In closing, I want to thank the FCC for taking on this difficult task. This is difficult work, and the Commission has invested a lot time and money in the effort. I hope it will make these suggested improvements to ensure that all its hard work leads to good results.

Sincerely,

Doug Peters, President
President & CEO

Cc: Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly